Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): An on-line service provision method, wherein a service session supervision platform ~~(10)~~ is placed between an access network ~~(1)~~ and an input node ~~(12)~~ of a service-hosting network, the method comprising the following steps in relation to at least one service:

- a priori defining, in the running of said service, at least one atomic section consisting of a determined sequence of events involved in message exchanges with a subscriber, and identifying a first event at the start of the atomic section and at least one second event at the end of the atomic section; and
- configuring the supervision platform so that ~~it~~ said supervision platform detects the events identified in a session of said service in progress for a subscriber via the access network and flags a start of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of the first event and an end of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of a second event,

wherein a communication interrupt request from a subscriber is processed by ascertaining whether an atomic section is in progress for said subscriber according to the atomic section beginnings and ends flagged by the supervision platform, in order to determine whether the communication must at least partly be interrupted immediately.

Claim 2 (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in response to a communication interrupt request for a subscriber, the immediate interruption of the communication is prevented when said subscriber has an ongoing atomic section for at least one service.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in response to a communication interrupt request for a subscriber, the immediate interruption of the communication is prevented when said subscriber has an ongoing atomic section for at least one service started less than a predetermined time ~~(T_0)~~ ago.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said predetermined duration ~~(T_0)~~ is specified to the supervision platform ~~(10)~~ for each atomic section.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein a context handler ~~(20)~~ is provided to communicate with different functional units including the supervision platform ~~(10)~~, to store information on service sessions in progress for subscribers via the access network ~~(1)~~, said information comprising an atomic section indicator kept up-to-date for each subscriber based on atomic section beginnings and ends flagged by the supervision platform.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the access network comprises a cellular radio communication network ~~(1)~~.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the input node of the service-hosting network comprises an Internet portal ~~(12)~~.

Claim 8 (currently amended): An on-line service control system, comprising a service session supervision platform ~~(10)~~ placed between an access network ~~(1)~~ and an input node ~~(12)~~ of a service-hosting network, and a context handler ~~(20)~~ to communicate with different functional units including the supervision platform in order to store information on service sessions in progress for subscribers via the access network, wherein at least one atomic section consisting of a determined sequence of events which are involved in message exchanges with a subscriber is a priori defined in the running of at least one service by identifying a first event at the start of the atomic section and at least one second event at the end of the atomic section, the supervision platform ~~(10)~~ including means for detecting the events identified in a session of said service in progress for a subscriber via the access network and for flagging to the context handler ~~(20)~~ a start of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of the first event and an end of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of a second event, the context handler including means

of keeping an atomic section indicator stored for each subscriber up-to-date on the basis of atomic section beginnings and ends flagged by the supervision platform and of processing a communication interrupt request from a subscriber according to the atomic section indicator stored for said subscriber in order to determine whether the communication must at least partly be interrupted immediately.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A service session supervision platform for an on-line service control system, comprising:

- means of connection on the one hand to an access network ~~(1)~~ and on the other hand to an input node ~~(12)~~ of a service-hosting network;
- means for communicating with an application server managing at least one on-line service so as to receive from said application server specification elements of at least one atomic section consisting of a determined sequence of events involved in message exchanges with a subscriber in the running of at least one service, said specification elements describing a first event at the start of the atomic section and at least one second event at the end of the atomic section;
- means of analyzing traffic passing between the access network and the input node of the service-hosting network to detect said first and second events in a session of said service in progress for a subscriber via the access network; and
- means of communication with a context handler ~~(20)~~ storing information on service sessions in progress for subscribers via the access network, including at least one atomic section indicator, to flag to the context handler ~~(20)~~ a start of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of the first event and an end of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of a second event.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The supervision platform as claimed in claim 9, wherein the specification elements of at least one atomic section include a timer duration ~~(T_0)~~ associated with said atomic section, such that the atomic section is considered to be finished when the timer duration has elapsed since the start of the atomic section.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A context handler for an on-line service control system, comprising:

- means of communication with different functional units including a service session supervision platform ~~(10)~~ placed between an access network ~~(1)~~ and an input node ~~(12)~~ of a service-hosting network;
- means of storing information on service sessions in progress for subscribers via the access network, said information including, for at least one service session in progress for a subscriber, an atomic section indicator kept up-to-date on the basis of atomic section beginnings and ends flagged by the supervision platform; and
- means of processing a communication interrupt request from a subscriber according to the atomic section indicator stored for said subscriber in order to determine whether the communication must at least partly be interrupted immediately.

Claim 12 (original): The context handler as claimed in claim 11, wherein the interrupt request processing means are arranged to determine selectively which current sessions for the subscriber are to be interrupted.

Claim 13 (original): The context handler as claimed in claim 12, wherein the selective determination is performed on the basis of sessions specified in the interrupt request, taking into account atomic section indicators stored for the subscriber.

Claim 14 (original): The context handler as claimed in claim 12, wherein the selective determination is performed according to a predefined service hierarchy logic, taking into account atomic section indicators stored for the subscriber.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A software agent for an on-line service developer, comprising instructions for performing the following operations on running the software agent in a computer machine communicating with a service session supervision platform ~~(10)~~ placed between an access network ~~(1)~~ and an input node ~~(12)~~ of a service-hosting network:

- determination, in the running of a service, of at least one atomic section consisting of a determined sequence of events involved in message exchanges with a subscriber;

- identification of a first event at the start of the atomic section and of at least one second event at the end of the atomic section; and
- configuration of the supervision platform so that it detects the events identified in a session of said service in progress for a subscriber via the access network and flags a start of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of the first event and an end of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of a second event.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The software agent as claimed in claim 15, wherein the supervision platform ~~(10)~~ configuration operation performed on running the software agent includes a configuration of the supervision platform so that ~~it~~ said supervision platform flags atomic section beginnings and ends to a context handler ~~(20)~~ storing information on service sessions in progress for subscribers via the access network, including at least one atomic section indicator.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The software agent as claimed in claim 15 ~~or 16~~, wherein the supervision platform ~~(10)~~ configuration operation performed on running the software agent includes the specification of a timer duration ~~(T_0)~~ associated with at least one atomic section, such that the atomic section is considered to be ended when the timer duration has elapsed since the start of the atomic section.